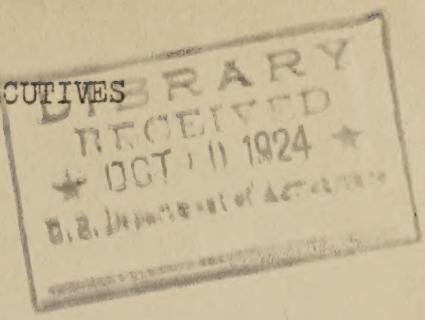


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1.9
Aug 8/14

ARLINGTON EXPERIMENT FARM
INSPECTION BY AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PARK EXECUTIVES
AND
AMERICAN PARK SOCIETY



The Arlington farm is a field laboratory for agricultural investigations conducted by the Bureau of Plant Industry to further its work and that of several other Bureaus of the Agricultural Department. It is located on the Virginia side of the Potomac River immediately opposite Potomac Park and about two miles from the Department of Agriculture buildings in Washington. It was established on July 1, 1900, by Congress setting aside nearly 400 acres of the old Arlington estate for the purpose.

It is used by about forty offices of the Bureau of Plant Industry and other Bureaus that do not have farms of their own.

Leave east side of Ellipse at 12:00 noon, cross Highway Bridge, passing site of proposed rose show garden on the left just before reaching the bridge. Several large beds of roses now in bloom.

Just beyond the public aviation field the farm begins. A little distance from the fence is a patch of hemp for production of pedigreed seed with variety tests of sorghum and millets next the fence. The corn is grown for breeding and inheritance studies.

On entering farm after passing under R. R. bridge, on left collection of nut varieties, variety vineyard and blight-resistant pear seedlings. On the right is an orchard for fruit disease investigations.

The first building on the right is the color laboratory (dye-stuff investigations) Public Roads laboratory (the low building back) soils laboratory (large building back with phosphoric acid extraction furnace adjoining), threshing shed, cold storage plant, lath house, sweet potato storage houses, greenhouse for cereal investigations, sheds for length of day studies, and administration plant.

Lunch.

1:00 P.M. - Length of Day Studies conducted by the Office of Tobacco and Plant Nutrition Investigations showing that the number of hours of daylight affects the blooming and seeding of many plants.

1:20 P.M. - Greenhouse soil studies, conducted by Office of Horticultural Investigations. An investigation of the possibility of using much soils as a substitute for stable manure in greenhouse work.

1:30 P.M. - Rose tests, chrysanthemum and morning glory breeding, Office of Horticultural Investigations.

Variety tests of all types of roses as to their suitability for outdoor culture in this climate.

Chrysanthemum seedlings from seed selected from early flowering plants grown last year. The object of the work is to secure early flowering kinds suitable for growing beyond the regions where chrysanthemums now thrive.

Tassellated morning glories. Colors selected from the offspring of a chance seedling called to the attention of the Department several years ago. White, red and purple strains are now on the market under the names of white, pink and blue. The true pink strain

comes reasonably true from seed but a true blue has not been obtained.

1:55 P.M. - Turf Garden, Office of Forage Crop Investigations.

The investigation of grasses for turf purposes, especially for use on golf courses, including the selection of kinds and methods of handling.

Plots of different lawn grasses including a number of selections of the bent grasses.

Beyond the grass garden are the vegetable test plots including investigations on the value of the different varieties for drying and canning.

2:20 P.M. - Take vehicles through service yard past power plant and fruit and vegetable utilization building, through tunnel under the old Chesapeake and Ohio Canal bed. On the right is another view of the reclaimed flats on which studies are being made on the production of bulbs, the relative desirability of different rose stocks, the best methods of fruit stock production, on sweet potato varieties, breeding of disease resistant tomatoes and asparagus, and the growing of carrots, beets, and sweet potatoes for storage disease studies. The building on the left is for the preparation of special fertilizer mixtures.

At the laboratories of the Bureau of Public Roads there are being investigated road materials including abrasion tests, impact tests, and different types of pavement; the bearing strength of concrete slabs of different thickness, mixtures, and various types and conditions of sub-grades, wearing tests on concrete and stability tests on bituminous concrete tops.

3:00 P.M. - Leave on Parks inspection tour passing from the farm down the willow oak avenue with vegetable tests on the left, iris and peony test gardens on the right. After leaving the oak drive, the rose perfume garden is passed on the left with the drug garden and its lath house adjoining. On the right are trials of potatoes, the seed of which has been kept at different temperatures. Next is the variety apple orchard with two trees of each variety. Beyond are variety tests of soja beans, velvet beans and cow peas.

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